

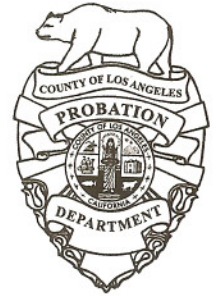


ROBERT B. TAYLOR
Chief Probation Officer

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES PROBATION DEPARTMENT

9150 EAST IMPERIAL HIGHWAY — DOWNEY, CALIFORNIA 90242

(562) 940-2501



October 3, 2008

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

COMPREHENSIVE EDUCATIONAL REFORM REPORT

On behalf of the Comprehensive Educational Reform Committee established by your Board, I am pleased to submit this Comprehensive Educational Reform Report for your Board's consideration.

Overall, the report has been well received by numerous stakeholders who support the implementation of the Committee's recommendations that we believe are necessary to effectively engage probation youth in education and to improve their opportunities for becoming successful and fully reintegrated into our communities.

The Probation Department's primary goal is to increase public safety through reduced recidivism and to effect positive behavioral change among probationers. Inherent in this goal is the belief that all minors have the right to obtain a quality education. It is essential to improve educational standards and outcomes for probation youth, so that they are fully equipped to finish high school, go on to college, or join the workforce, with a goal of becoming productive members of society.

The Committee included representatives from the Los Angeles County Office of Education, Juvenile Court, Probation Commission, Children's Planning Council, Education Coordinating Council, Public Library, Department of Children & Family Services, Department of Mental Health, Chief Executive Office, the Learning Rights Law Center, The Resources Company, and RT Consulting Group, Inc.

I would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank all of the Committee participants and my staff for their participation in the 22 Committee meetings held and their work in drafting, reviewing, and revising previous versions of the Committee's report. Their collective focus on best practices, high standards, accountability and collaboration between Probation and LACOE, is commendable and was very much appreciated.

Committee participants are both enthusiastic and energized to implement the 35 recommendations in the report, and believe that there would be value to periodic work group meetings of the Committee to provide implementation oversight. We plan to provide your Board with a final implementation action plan in December 2008. Collectively, we believe that implementation of the vision and recommendations in the attached report will significantly improve the quality of education for youth in our juvenile halls and camps.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Robert B. Taylor". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of each word being capitalized and prominent.

ROBERT B. TAYLOR
Chief Probation Officer

c: All Committee Participants